

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections and objections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith, which place the application into condition for allowance.

It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, are patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner, and that these claims were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to these claims, and the remarks that follow as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes and remarks are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

Claims 20-38 are pending. Claims 1-19 are cancelled and new claims 20-38 are added, without prejudice. No new matter is added by these amendments. Support for the new claims is found throughout the specification (for example, on page 3, lines 5-9 and page 5, lines 14-17) and from the canceled claims.

Claim 15 was objected to for an alleged informality. The cancellation of claim 15, without prejudice, renders the objection moot. Consequently, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

Claims 15, 16, 18 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Lovinggood et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,697,603 B1).

Claims 1-3, 5, 7, 8 and 11-14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lovinggood et al. in view of Knapp (EP 0515728 A2).

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lovinggood et al. in view of Knapp and further in view of Komara (U.S. Patent No. 6,339,694 B1).

Claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lovinggood et al. in view of Knapp and further in view of Simon (U.S. Patent No. 5,570,354).

Claim 10 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lovinggood et al. in view of Knapp and further in view of Fischer et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,360,075 B1).

Claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Lovinggood et al. in view of Shoki (U.S. Patent No. 5,894,598).

The rejections will be collectively addressed and are respectfully traversed. Although Applicants disagree with these rejections, the cancellation of claims 1-19 render the rejections moot. Further, Applicants believe that new claims 20-38 are patentably distinguishable from the cited documents.

The instant invention is directed to a high data rate wireless transmission system for indoor applications operating in the upper microwave range, mm-wave range and/or in the infrared range. None of the cited documents teach, enable, suggest or motivate a skilled artisan to practice such an invention.

Lovinggood relates to complex digital repeaters for receiving and retransmitting RF signals, wherein such RF signals are down-converted, further processed and then up-converted before they are retransmitted.

Knapp relates to a wireless indoor data relay system, wherein ceiling mounted transponders communicate with each other on the basis of IR light or microwave signals. Knapp is elaborating on the wireless communication link from transponder to transponder. As shown in Figs. 6 and 7, the received IR light is radio coupled into an RF transmission path, then re-changed into IR light in order to be retransmitted to another transponder.

Komara relates to a method and an apparatus employing automatic RF muting and wireless remote control of RF downlink transmission for the protection of a downlink amplifier in a wireless repeater system. The RF repeaters comprise an RF controller for controlling the operation of the RF repeaters.

In contrast, the present invention does not involve any baseband processing or any broadband cabling infrastructure and allows every mobile terminal direct access to every other mobile terminal via an active reflector that acts as a communication link. Therefore, unlike Lovinggood, Knapp and Komara, the active reflector (and not the RF repeater) can establish a communication link even when there is no direct line-of-sight between two mobile terminals. As a result, the active reflector acts as a “mirror” for high frequencies, thus providing indirect line-of-sight for direct data transmission between two or more mobile terminals.

Furthermore, Fischer and Shoki relate to communication systems for the communication between base stations and mobile terminals that involve baseband processing. In contrast, the present invention does not involve any baseband processing

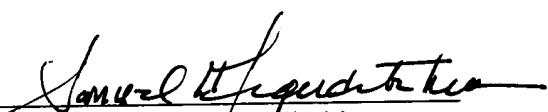
Therefore, none of the cited references anticipates or renders obvious an active reflector for use in indoor wireless data communication systems as defined in the new set of claims.

In the event that the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing comments concerning the disclosures in the cited prior art, it is requested that the Examiner indicate where in the reference or references, there is the bases for a contrary view.

Please charge any fees incurred by reason of this response and not paid herewith to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

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